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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHESHUNT



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

including the Report of the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1963

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
MANOR HOUSE,
CHESHUNT.
July, 1964.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHESHUNT.

I have the honour to present my eighteenth annual report together with that of the Public Health Inspector upon the health and sanitary circumstances of the district for the year 1963.

The report follows the general lines indicated in Ministry of Health Circular 1/64.

Again the birth and death rates for Cheshunt compare favourably with those for the country as a whole. It is regrettable that one maternal death during the year has to be recorded. This was due to "self-induced abortion" and the patient died in hospital.

There were fourteen infant deaths during the year giving a rate of 17.48 per thousand live births, compared with 20.9 for England and Wales. The rate for Cheshunt in 1962 was 29.56 compared with 21.4 for England and Wales and so the figures for 1963 may be said to show a considerable improvement but it should be remembered that conclusions drawn from statistics based on such small numbers are likely to be misleading.

There was nothing exceptional about the incidence of infectious diseases during the year. Measles followed the normal pattern of a minor epidemic in alternate years, while new cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year were twenty-one, which is the same number as last year.

It is pleasing to be able to record that there were no cases of Poliomyelitis or of Food Poisoning during the year.

Following an outbreak of Typhoid Fever abroad, food establishments were advised on the desirability of bacteriological investigation for anyone engaged in food handling who had recently been to places involved in the outbreak.

The extension of Smoke Control Areas again occupied an important place in the activities of the department, and the report contains details of other activities directed to the improvement of environmental conditions.

I should like again to record my thanks to the Public Health Inspector and to all members of the staff for their co-operation throughout the year and to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their interest and support in the promotion of public health.

C. R. HILLIS,
Medical Officer of Health.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHESHUNT

Public Health Committee, 1963-1964

Councillor R. E. MARSHALL (Chairman).

Councillor L. G. C. BLEWITT

Councillor D. E. BREEZE

Councillor J. W. GILLSON

Councillor D. T. HICKMAN

Councillor Mrs. J. M. LOCKE

Councillor J. A. MOULDER

Councillor L. C. PARKER

Councillor J. G. E. SWANNELL

Councillor G. E. TERRY

Public Health Department Staff :

Medical Officer of Health (Part Time) :

CHARLES R. HILLIS, M.B., B.Ch.

Official Address: Manor House, Turner's Hill, Cheshunt,
Herts.

Telephone No.: Waltham Cross 23381.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health (Part Time) :

D. Q. TROUNCE, M.D., M.R.C.P.

*Senior Public Health Inspector, Inspector under the
Petroleum Acts, Inspector under the Shops Act :*

C. WILSON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Senior Public Health Inspector :

J. L. BILLINGS, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector :

B. J. ENGLISH, M.A.P.H.I.

Student Public Health Inspector :

D. E. FELLOWS.

Clerk/Typist : Mrs. T. ATKINS.

Junior Clerk : Miss H. MOLD, commenced 6.5.63,
resigned 2.8.63

Mr. K. RANSON, commenced 2.9.63.

Rodent Operator : W. J. PLASTOW.

SECTION I

STATISTICS

AREA: The area of Cheshunt is 8,480 acres.

POPULATION: Registrar-General's Estimate:

1952	23,880	1956	27,000	1960	32,790
1953	24,670	1957	28,050	1961	35,490
1954	25,350	1958	29,450	1962	36,630
1955	26,090	1959	31,110	1963	37,530

Number of inhabited houses on the		1963	1964
rate books (at 31st March) ...		11,116	11,647

Rateable Value	£533,178	£1,034,248
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Sum represented by penny rate	...	£2,208	£7,089
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EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

				Male	Female	Total
Deaths from all causes	145	140	285

Live Births—Legitimate	...	...	...	414	368	782
Illegitimate	...	...	...	10	9	19

Still Births—Legitimate	...	...	...	5	8	13
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	1	2

Deaths of Infants under one year of age:

Legitimate	...	...	...	9	5	14
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—

Deaths of Infants under four weeks of age:

Legitimate	...	...	...	5	5	10
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—

Deaths of Infants under one week of age:

Legitimate	...	...	...	2	3	5
Illegitimate	...	..	...	—	—	—

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES.

To make an approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England and Wales as a whole the crude birth and death rates for the area should be multiplied by the area comparability factor supplied for the purpose by the General Register Office. When local crude birth and death rates have been so adjusted they are comparable with the crude rate for England and Wales and with the corresponding adjusted rate for any other area.

The adjusted rates for Cheshunt, together with the crude rates for England and Wales for comparison, are as follows:

Death Rates

	Cheshunt			England & Wales	
	No. of Deaths	Crude Death Rate	Comparability Factor	Adjusted Rate	
1959	226	7.26	1.38	10.02	11.6
1960	256	7.81	1.41	11.01	11.5
1961	239	6.73	1.46	9.76	12.0
1962	284	7.75	1.47	11.39	11.9
1963	285	7.59	1.54	11.69	12.2

Birth Rates

	Cheshunt			England & Wales	
	No. of Births	Crude Birth Rate	Comparability Factor	Adjusted Rate	
1959	641	20.60	0.89	18.33	16.5
1960	684	20.86	0.88	18.36	17.1
1961	782	22.03	0.87	19.17	17.4
1962	778	21.24	0.86	18.27	18.0
1963	801	21.34	0.84	17.93	18.2

	1962	1963
Still birth rate per 1,000 total births (live and still), Cheshunt	12.69	18.38

Maternal Mortality, Cheshunt:

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	1	1
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INFANT MORTALITY:

				All infants per 1,000 live births		
				Cheshunt		England & Wales
Year				No. of Deaths	Rate	Rate
1954	...	...	...	12	31.58	25.4
1955	...	...	...	4	10.44	24.9
1956	...	...	...	8	17.51	23.7
1957	...	...	...	7	14.55	23.1
1958	...	...	...	8	12.94	22.6
1959	...	...	...	8	12.48	22.0
1960	...	...	...	14	20.47	21.9
1961	...	...	...	18	23.02	21.4
1962	...	...	...	23	29.56	21.4
1963	...	...	...	14	17.48	20.9

Neonatal Mortality rate per 1,000 live births (under 4 weeks) 12.48

Illegitimate live births % of total live births ... 2.37

Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births 1.23

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1963:

				Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	...	...		—	1	1
Tuberculosis, other	...	...		1	—	1
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases				1	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	...			3	5	8
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus				15	1	16
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	...			—	7	7
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	...			—	5	5
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	...	...	...	12	18	30
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	...	...		1	1	2
Diabetes	...	...	...	—	1	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System				7	14	21
Coronary Disease, Angina	...	...		38	19	57
Hypertension with Heart Disease	...			1	4	5

					Male	Female	Total
Other Heart Disease	...	...			21	11	32
Other Circulatory Disease	...	...			1	10	11
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	7	12	19
Bronchitis	...	...	..	...	17	6	23
Other Disease of the Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...				1	1	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...			1	1	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	...			1	—	1
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	...				—	1	1
Congenital Malformations	...	...			1	—	1
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	...	...	...	...	8	15	23
Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...			4	2	6
All Other Accidents	...	...			1	—	1
Suicide	...	...	...	...	1	5	6
All causes					145	140	285

SECTION II

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD SERVICES

PHYSIOTHERAPY CLINIC	Health Centre, High Street, Waltham Cross. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 8.45 a.m. to 1.0 p.m.
ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC	Health Centre, High Street, Waltham Cross. 1st Wednesday in each month, 2 to 5 p.m.
PHYSIOTHERAPY CLINIC	Tolmers Road, Cuffley. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 1.0 p.m.
CHEST CLINIC	Honey Lane Hospital, Waltham Abbey. Monday, 9.45 a.m. to 12 noon, Thursday, 2.0 p.m. to 3.45 p.m. Wednesday, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. (Contact Clinic).
ANTE-NATAL CLINIC	Health Centre, High Street, Waltham Cross. Monday, 2.30 p.m. to 5.0 p.m.
OPHTHALMIC CLINIC	Health Centre, Blindman's Lane, Cheshunt. Friday, 9.30 a.m. to 1.0 p.m.

COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH SERVICES

AMBULANCE	Fire and Ambulance Station, Cheshunt. Establishment on 31st December, 1963: two shift leaders, eight ambulance drivers. one ambulance, one sitting case car.
DAY NURSERY	The Chestnuts, Waltham Cross (Waltham Cross 24878). 30 places for children 0 to 5 years.
HOME HELP SERVICE	Organiser: Mrs. M. L. K. Frost, 194 High Street, Waltham Cross (Waltham Cross 24658). Office Hours: Monday to Friday, 9.0 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., Friday, 2.0 p.m. to 5.15 p.m. Establishment of Home Helps at 31st Dec., 1963: 55. Cases assisted during 1963: 386.

WELFARE CENTRES AND CLINICS

- (1) *Health Centre, Blindman's Lane, Cheshunt. I.W.C. Monday 2.0 to 4.0 p.m., Thursday 10.0 to 12.0, 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.*

Dental. (By appointment.) Mon., Tues., Thurs. a.m. and p.m.

Gen. Clinic. Third Monday a.m.

Ophthalmic. Friday a.m.

Orthoptic. Friday a.m.

A.N. Relaxation Class. Tuesday p.m.

Speech Therapy. Tuesday a.m.

- (2) *Memorial Hall, Goff's Oak. Every Friday p.m. Doctor attends 2nd, 4th and 5th.*

- (3) *Health Centre, rear of Greenfield House, High Street, Waltham Cross (Waltham Cross 23401).*

General Clinic. 1st Monday a.m.

Mothers' Club. Wednesday evenings (alternate).

Dental Clinic each day.

Speech Therapy Clinic. Tuesday p.m.

Ante-Natal Clinic. Monday p.m. appointment only. Doctor attends.

Relaxation Classes. Tuesday p.m.

Infant Welfare Centre. Wednesday a.m. and p.m. Doctor attends.

Chiropody Clinic. Friday 9.0 a.m. to 12.0 noon, 2.0 p.m. to 5.0 p.m. (by appointment only).

HEALTH VISITORS
AND SCHOOL
NURSES

Mrs. I. Jorgensen, Welfare Centre, High Street, Waltham Cross. (Waltham Cross 23401.)

Miss M. E. Pawsey, Health Centre, Blindman's Lane, Cheshunt (Waltham Cross 28232).

Miss J. P. Young, 87 Cuffley Hill, Goff's Oak. (Cuffley 2420.)

DISTRICT NURSES AND MIDWIVES Miss K. M. Woodcock, 178 High Street, Waltham Cross. (Waltham Cross 23127.)
Mrs. Norris, 27 Ousden Drive, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 23745.)
Miss M. Smith, 24 Cromwell Avenue, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 23580.)
Miss M. G. Brown, 87 Cuffley Hill, Goff's Oak. (Cuffley 2420.)
Miss E. L. Day, Park Cottage, Flamstead End. (Waltham Cross 23410.)
Miss G. D. Taylor, 1 Prescott Road, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 22344.)

OTHER SERVICES

BLOOD TRANSFUSION.

Sessions are held at the Health Centre, Waltham Cross, at regular intervals. Dates of future sessions and further information may be obtained from Mrs. B. Brown, Honorary Organiser, National Blood Transfusion Service, 133 Windmill Lane, Cheshunt. Telephone No.: Waltham Cross 25233.

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY.

The Society has a range of medical equipment for the sick and injured available on loan on the recommendation of Medical Practitioners and District Nurses. The equipment is at The Clinic, High Street, Waltham Cross. The depot is open on Tuesday and Thursday, 7.30 p.m. to 9.0 p.m.

The Society staff a First Aid Post from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays at the Herts County Council Sailing Base, Windmill Lane (adjoining the Council's Swimming Pool).

In addition to their normal activities, the local detachment has available a team which is on call for disaster relief work under the Commandant, Mrs. B. Brown, 133 Windmill Lane, Cheshunt. Telephone No.: Waltham Cross 25233.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

A hospital laboratory service is available at Chase Farm Hospital and at the Hertford County Hospital. Larger scale facilities are available at the Central Public Health Laboratory, Colindale, and the Regional Public Health Laboratory, Luton.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948-1951.

During the year no action was taken by the Council under Section 47 of the principal Act for the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

MORTUARY.

The mortuary is situated in a building at Cheshunt Cemetery, Bury Green Road. During the year no bodies were received in the mortuary.

W.V.S. MEALS SERVICE.

A Meals - on - Wheels service for house-bound people nominated from statutory welfare sources is operated by the W.V.S., the Council paying a subsidy on the cost of the meals. The service is used mainly by Old Age Pensioners and meals are delivered twice weekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Where requested a second meal is left to be heated up the following day.

The number of persons requiring this service continues to increase and additional volunteer drivers would be welcome. Further information may be obtained from Mrs. D. V. Rogers, 16, Brookfield Gardens, Cheshunt. Telephone No. : Waltham Cross 23886.

HOME SAFETY.

The administration of the Home Safety Act, 1961, is vested in the Public Health Committee and the Council are subscribers to the Home Safety Section of RoSPA. Poster and other publicity material on this subject is displayed in the Public Library and on Council vehicles and notice boards.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

The Council engaged the Smoking and Health Mobile Unit of the Central Council for Health Education for 24th and 25th June, 1963., when the unit visited the Waltham Cross and Cheshunt St. Mary's Secondary Schools, and the East Herts College of Further Education.

A poster campaign on smoking and health was maintained on Council notice boards and vehicles.

SECTION III

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The following table shows details of diseases notified during 1962 and 1963:

		1962	1963		
		Cases Notified	Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever ...	...	16	20	—	—
Measles ...	...	122	836	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	...	9	52	—	—
Pneumonia ...	...	10	7	2	19
Erysipelas ...	...	5	3	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	—	5	—	—
Dysentery ...	...	—	3	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	...	3	—	—	—
Ophthalmia					
Neonatorum ...	...	—	1	—	—
Tuberculosis ...	...	21	21	13	2
Meningococcal					
Infection ...	...	1	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis (paralytic)		1	—	—	—

MEASLES.

Notification of Measles in the last ten years are shown in the following table:—

Year					Cases Notified	Notifications per 1,000 population
1954	...	...	...	...	4	0.16
1955	...	...	...	...	740	28.36
1956	...	...	...	...	58	2.15
1957	...	...	...	...	622	22.17
1958	...	...	...	...	66	2.10
1959	...	...	...	...	713	22.92
1960	...	...	...	...	104	3.17
1961	...	...	...	...	935	26.35
1962	...	...	...	...	122	3.33
1963	...	...	...	...	836	22.28

DISINFECTION.

No current or terminal disinfection was carried out in connection with notifiable disease during the year. Library books from houses where notifiable diseases have occurred are returned to the Health Dept. for disinfection before re issue by the Library.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

The incidence of this disease over the past ten years is shown in the following table:—

Year					Cases Notified	Notifications per 1,000 population
1954	...	...	...	...	32	1.26
1955	...	...	...	...	6	0.23
1956	...	...	...	...	98	3.63
1957	...	...	...	...	127	4.53
1958	...	...	...	...	1	0.03
1959	...	...	...	...	16	0.51
1960	...	...	...	...	101	3.08
1961	...	...	...	...	18	0.51
1962	...	...	...	...	9	0.25
1963	...	...	...	...	52	1.39

TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of new cases of Tuberculosis in 1963 was 21 compared with 21 cases in 1962.

New Cases, 1963—classified by age groups:—

Age	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Totals
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
0—5	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	—	—	—	1	1
15—25	1	—	—	1	2
25—35	3	—	—	—	3
35—45	4	3	1	—	8
45—55	3	1	—	—	4
55—65	2	1	—	—	3
65 upwards	—	—	—	—	—
	13	5	1	2	21

	1962	1963
Number of cases from other areas transferred to Cheshunt	12	13

There were two deaths attributed to Tuberculosis in Cheshunt during 1963.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which relate respectively to infectious persons suffering from tuberculosis and engaged in the handling of milk and to the removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from tuberculosis.

SECTION IV

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES AND INSPECTION OF THE AREA

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The Inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors during the year numbered 3,230 and details as to the nature of these inspections are given in the tables which follow. 438 complaints relating to a variety of matters were received.

SUMMARY.

Number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health and Housing Acts)	272
Number of dwelling-houses inspected for other than housing defects	858
Number of premises other than houses inspected	196
Premises re-inspected	577
Visits to works in progress	103
Miscellaneous visits	1,224
	<hr/>
	3,230

Included in the above table are the following classified visits :—

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :

Visits re cases of Infectious Diseases	73
Visits re Collection and Disposal of Refuse	22
Drainage Works	133
Visits to Swimming Baths	6
Visits re Water Supplies	31
Verminous Premises Disinfested	3

HOUSING ACTS :

Visits re Improvement Grants—Discretionary	183
Visits re Improvement Grants—Standard	87
Visits re Overcrowding	30

Visits re Foreign Immigrants "Certificates—Declaration of Accommodation"	8
Visits re Contravention of Council Mortgage Deed—Lodgers	89

CLEAN AIR ACT:

Visits re Smoke Control Areas	1,117
Visits re Smoke Nuisances	92
Visits to Atmospheric Pollution Stations	80
Visits re Boiler Furnace Installations	26

GENERAL:

Visits re Caravan Act	115
Visits re Petroleum Acts	33
Visits re Rent Act	8
Visits re National Assistance Act, Section 47	6
Visits re Noise Abatement	63
Visits re Rodent Control	81
Visits re Shops Act	16
Visits to Pet Shops	2
Visits to Animal Boarding Establishments	1

Details of inspections of food premises and factories are given in the appropriate sections of the Report.

UNFIT HOUSES.

Four houses were reported upon as unfit for human habitation but Orders had not been made at the end of the year. The houses were 153, High Street, Cheshunt, 20, Albury Grove Road, 1 and 2, Leatherbottle Cottages, Peakes Lane.

A Demolition Order was made on 150 High Street, Cheshunt and this house together with the adjoining property, No. 152, High Street, Cheshunt, was demolished in July. No. 152 was seriously affected by the demolition of adjoining property and had been shored up for some time. It could not be demolished, however, without affecting the stability of No. 150. Both houses were in the High Street Comprehensive Redevelopment Area.

The following houses, on which Demolition Orders were made in previous years, were demolished in 1963:

7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, Hatton Road.

11, Turner's Hill.

80, High Street, Cheshunt.

Pantile Hall, Jones Road.

Works of repair were commenced on No. 254, High Street, Waltham Cross on which a Closing Order was made in 1956.

3, Willow Cottages, Newgatestreet Road, on which an undertaking under the Act was accepted in 1959, was rendered fit for human habitation.

The total number of individual unfit houses dealt with under the Demolition or Closing Order procedure of the Housing Acts since 1953 is 178.

OVERCROWDING AND HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION.

Six cases of statutory overcrowding were found during the year and in four of these cases the overcrowding was abated.

In one case legal proceedings were instituted and at Cheshunt Magistrates Court on 5th June, 1963, the occupier was fined £2 for permitting the house to be overcrowded. Shortly afterwards, the occupier's married daughter and her husband and child left the premises, but the occupier's own family of seven children who remained in occupation were equivalent to $8\frac{1}{2}$ units, while the permitted number of the house is 7.

On the application of the occupier, in view of the exceptional circumstances, the Council granted a licence under Section 80 of the Housing Act, 1957, authorising persons in excess of the permitted number to sleep in the house for the period ending 30th September, 1964.

In the other case notices had been served, but the overcrowding had not been abated at the end of the year.

A number of houses subject to mortgages by the Council were reported where the mortgagor was in breach of the mortgage deed by reason of having lodgers without the consent of the Council and the necessary enforcement action was taken.

The Council continued to use a formula based on bedroom accommodation in dealing with applications from mortgagors to take in lodgers. A house with two double bedrooms and one single room is considered to provide accommodation for a maximum of five persons irrespective of age.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no registered common lodging houses in the Urban District.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

In 1962 the Council designated two areas—one at Waltham Cross and one at Cheshunt—as Improvement Areas in which it is their intention to secure the improvement of all dwelling houses which are suitable for improvement and which at present lack any or all of the five standard amenities.

During the year a postal survey of the areas was undertaken to ascertain what standard amenities already exist and information was distributed to owners and occupiers as to the grants which are available and the procedure to be followed in obtaining them.

At the Wolsey Hall in September, a Better Homes Exhibition was staged in conjunction with a Clean Air Exhibition. Both the survey and the exhibition stimulated many interested enquiries and much valuable publicity was achieved, but it appears doubtful whether the improvement of all houses which should be improved is likely to be effected until local authorities have statutory powers to enforce the necessary work.

During the year the Council approved 15 applications for Standard Grants for the installation of amenities which qualified for grants totalling £1,430. Thirty applications for Discretionary Improvement Grants were approved during the year for works estimated to cost £9,403.

The grants available remain the same. Firstly, the Standard Grant under which the house owners and certain lease holders can obtain as a right half the cost up to a maximum of £155 of installing five basic improvements. If one or more of the five improvements is already in the house, the maximum grant of £155 is reduced by £25 if there is already a bath or shower, by £5 for a wash hand basin, by £40 for a water closet and by £75 for a hot water supply and by £10 for a food store.

Secondly, the Discretionary Grant under which up to half the estimated cost of more extensive improvements may be paid at the discretion of the local authority, subject to a maximum grant of £400. For conversion of houses into flats the maximum grant is £400 for each flat so provided.

Both grants are available to owner/occupiers and to owners of tenanted houses.

RENT ACT, 1957.

Details of applications for Certificates of Disrepair and applications for cancellation of Certificates during the year are as follows :—

Number of applications for certificates	...	...	1
Number of decisions to issue certificates	...	...	2
(a) in respect of some but not all defects	...	...	2
Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	...	...	1
Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	...	...	—
Number of certificates issued	...	...	1
Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates	...	...	—

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Number of houses erected since 1945 :

By the Urban District Council of Cheshunt	...	1,503
By the Edmonton Borough Council	...	694
By the Tottenham Borough Council	...	185
By the Wood Green Borough Council	...	173
By Private Enterprise	...	4,080
		<hr/> 6,635 <hr/>

Number of houses erected during 1963 :

By the Urban District Council of Cheshunt	...	Nil
By the Wood Green Borough Council	...	173
By Private Enterprise	...	221
		<hr/> 394 <hr/>

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

1. INSPECTION FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local Authorities ...	3	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority ...	102	10	—	—
(iii) Other Premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	105	10	—	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Number of Cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
Unsuitable or Defective .	1	—	—	1	—
Insufficient .	—	—	—	—	—
Other Offences including offences under Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	1	—	—	1	—

3. OUTWORK.

There is one factory only in this area submitting lists of outworkers required by Section 110 of the Act. The nature of the work is making of wearing apparel and the number of outworkers in the August list was 158. There were no cases of default in sending lists to the Council during the year.

Three inspections were made of outworkers' premises and they were found to be satisfactory.

PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT.

Under Regulation 5 of the Hertfordshire (Music and Dancing) Regulations, 1955, all new applications to the County Council for a licence must be accompanied by a letter from the County District Council stating whether there is any objection on sanitary grounds to the licensing of the premises.

One new application in respect of the College of Further Education, Turnford, was dealt with during the year. No objection was raised on sanitary grounds to the renewal of existing licences.

Seven inspections were made during the year.

SERVICE OF NOTICES.

Statutory Notices under Section 93, Public Health Act, 1936, to abate nuisance	10
Statutory Notices under Section 50, Public Health Act, 1936, requirements with regard to cesspool	1
Statutory Notices under Section 277, Public Health Act, 1936 requiring information as to ownership of premises	44
Statutory Notices under Section 75, Public Health Act, 1936, requiring provision of covered dustbin for house refuse	2
Licence under Section 80, Housing Act, 1957, for temporary use of house by persons in excess of the permitted number	1
Statutory Notices under Section 85(3), Housing Act, 1957, requiring statement of persons sleeping in a house	7
Statutory Notices under Section 159, Housing Act, 1957, of intention to enter houses for survey	1
Statutory Notices under Section 12(2), Clean Air Act, 1956, requiring the carrying out of adaptations	73

SUMMARY

Statutory Notices requiring defects in dwelling-houses to be remedied :—

Served, 1963	10	Complied with, 1963 .	9
Outstanding, 31st Dec., 1962	1	Complied w i t h by Council in default .	—
		Outstanding, 31st Dec., 1963	2
	—		—
	11		11
	—		—

Intimation Notices served during the year 66

WATER SUPPLY.

The whole of the district is within the area of supply of the Metropolitan Water Board and the supply has been satisfactory in quantity and quality. All dwelling-houses in the district are supplied from public mains direct to the houses with the exception of the following premises, where water is obtained from private sources :—

Aqueduct Lock House. River Lea Bank.
 Aqueduct Lock Cottage. River Lea Bank.
 Cheshunt Lock House. River Lea Bank.
 Plantation Cottage. River Lea Bank.
 Housemoors Cottage. Halfhide Lane.
 New River Cottage. Halfhide Lane.
 Theobalds Secondary Modern School, Theobalds Park.
 Theobalds Lodge, Theobalds Park.
 Theobalds Cottage, Theobalds Park.
 Cottage, South Villa Nursery, Park Lane.

During the year seven samples for bacteriological examination were taken from these private sources of supply and all samples were reported upon as satisfactory.

WATER SAMPLING.

Five samples of water from private sources of supply at market gardens were submitted for laboratory examination. These samples were requested as part of a quality control investigation by a multiple retail firm buying large quantities of cucumbers and the enquiry was to ascertain whether

water used for overhead spraying was likely to cause contamination of crops which are eaten raw and frequently without washing.

The report showed that all the samples were within the standard suggested by the Ministry of Health for small rural water supplies and therefore satisfactory for the purpose of this enquiry.

FLUORIDATION OF WATER SUPPLY.

In February, after much discussion, the Council decided to inform the County Council that they support the proposals for the making of an arrangement with water undertakers for the addition of fluoride to water supplies which are deficient in it naturally.

SWIMMING BATHS.

The Cheshunt Swimming Pool, which was formerly in private ownership, is now the property of the local authority, who have installed modern continuous water filtration and chlorination plant. The ph. value and chlorine content of the water is checked at frequent intervals daily and a record of these tests is maintained.

Three samples were taken for bacteriological examination during the season and they were found to be satisfactory.

The swimming pool at Cheshunt Grammar School has a continuous filtration and chlorination plant and the water is regularly sampled during the season by the County Health Department. All samples were reported upon as satisfactory.

The Secondary Modern School at Theobalds Park has a swimming pool which is operated on the fill and empty system with water from a chlorinated supply at the school. Supplementary chlorination is carried out manually. One sample of water was submitted for bacteriological examination during the season and was reported upon as satisfactory.

School swimming pools were under construction during the year at Flamstead End Junior Mixed Infants School, Cheshunt Secondary Modern School and the Mill Lane School.

SEWERAGE.

The Engineer and Surveyor reports as follows:—

“All sewage is at present carried by the East Middlesex Drainage Scheme to the recently completed works at Edmonton.

“No problems are anticipated as a result of normal development of the district in accordance with present known plans. However, if there were to be any substantial development of, say, the Lea Valley area in excess of present plans, then it would be extremely likely that relief sewer works would be required.”

CESSPOOL DRAINAGE.

In October, the Council abolished the scale of charges for the emptying of domestic cesspools. Charges for the emptying of non-domestic cesspools remains unchanged and is based on the actual cost of the work involved.

CARAVANS.

The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, prohibits the use of land as a caravan site without a site licence, and a site licence cannot be granted unless the applicant has Planning Permission to use the site for caravans.

The following decisions were made on applications for site licences during the year:

Site	Licence and Planning Consent expire on	No. of Caravans	Conditions of Licence
1. Haldon Nursery, St. James Road.	Renewed to 31st March, 1964	1	—
2. New Willows Caravan Park, Waltham Cross.	—	92	Subject to Works.
3. Old Elm Farm, Crouch Lane.	Site Licence refused.		
4. Lordship Nursery, Hammond Street Road.	31st December, 1965.	1	Subject to Works.
5. Darnicle Hill Nursery, Darnicle Hill.	Application refused.		

An application was received in respect of Walthamdene Kennels, Over-the-Line, Trinity Lane, but this was not determined before the end of the year.

Legal proceedings were instituted against the owner of a caravan parked on the roadside waste at the junction of Appleby Street and Holbeck Lane, for an offence against the provisions of the Hertfordshire County Council Act, 1935, and a fine of £2 was imposed at Cheshunt Court on 21st August, 1963. On 20th November, 1963, at Cheshunt Court, a further fine of £2 was imposed and a daily penalty fixed of 10s. per day after 5th December, 1963.

The appeal against the conditions of the site licence issued in March, 1961, in respect of the caravans at St. Lawrence Farm, Goff's Oak, was withdrawn during the year. The licence was granted subject to works and "run down" conditions, but the number of caravans on the site remains considerably in excess of the number permitted by the site licence. Legal proceedings in respect of this site were still under consideration at the end of the year.

INFESTATION.

Contact insecticides are used where necessary to combat infestation.

The assistance of the Department was sought in dealing with a wide variety of insect pests during the year as follows:

Ants	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	16
Wasp Nests	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	77
Bugs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
House Flies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cluster Flies	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	2
Earwigs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Carpet Beetles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Black Beetles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

There was one complaint regarding "Gooseberry or Clover Mite" from the Church Lane Housing Estate. The mites feed on plant juices and migrate from areas of grass into the adjoining dwelling-houses. They are harmless to humans and will not damage furniture or fabrics.

Complaints were received about four swarms of bees and arrangements were made for local bee-keepers to collect the swarms.

Treatment was requested to deal with one infestation of moles.

Where work is undertaken by the Department to combat infestation a charge is made.

RODENT CONTROL.

Year ended 31st December, 1963.

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Type of Property		Total
			Agricultural	All other (including Business and Industrial)	
Total Number of properties ...	7	11,116	132	1,798	13,053
Number of properties inspected	1	168	1	29	199
Number of properties found to be infested by rats ...	—	—	—	—	—
	Major { Minor }	150	1	22	174
Number of properties found to be infested by mice ...	—	8	—	2	10
Number of infested properties treated ...	1	213	1	25	240
“Block” Treatments ...	—	—	—	—	—

Treatment of infestation of private dwellings is carried out free of charge but charges are made for rodent control work done at other premises.

The number of rats in the soil sewers is very small and no baiting of the sewers was undertaken during the year.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

A regular weekly collection of house refuse was maintained in all parts of the Urban District and the refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping in gravel pits at Albury Ride, Cheshunt, and at Lodge Hollow, Hoddesdon. The Council also undertake the collection of trade refuse.

A "pilot" scheme of collection of house refuse by the paper sack method was approved.

The Council undertake the collection of items of household rubbish, excluding garden refuse and builders' rubble, from householders without charge and it is hoped that this service will reduce the litter problem from the dumping of large items of refuse such as mattresses.

The refuse collection and disposal service is administered by the Council's Engineer and Surveyor.

REFUSE DUMPS.

Dumping of refuse is controlled by consents granted by the Herts County Council and the District Council under the Hertfordshire County Council Act, 1935. Three new consents were granted during the year for deposits of refuse in gravel workings at Park Lane, Waltham Cross, at Turnford Marsh and at Nunnery Farm, Turnford.

The conditions are designed to prevent nuisance and control fires.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

One licence to keep a pet shop was granted during the year and the conditions recommended by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals were incorporated in the licence.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956.

SMOKE CONTROL AREAS.

During the year the Council approved in principle the setting up of Cheshunt's fourth Smoke Control Area and the survey was commenced. The No. 3 area came into operation on 1st October, and the following table shows details of the three areas in operation at the end of the year:

SMOKE CONTROL AREAS.

Area No.	Acres	Made	Order Confirmed	Operation	Total	Houses Estimated Requiring Adaptation	No. on which Grant Paid
1	140	20 Dec., 1960	21 Apr., 1961	1 Nov., 1961	306	178	116
2	280	19 Dec., 1961	20 Mar., 1962	1 Oct., 1962	868	388	187 (prov.)
3	250	18 Dec., 1962	28 Mar., 1963	1 Oct., 1963	1501	576	not yet available

The No. 1 Area includes the new development of the Tottenham, Edmonton and Wood Green Councils on the Russell's Ride Estate now under construction and which on completion will include 590 dwellings.

The effect of a Smoke Control Order is to ban all smoke from chimneys and to require the burning only of "authorised fuels."

Garden bonfires are not prohibited in Smoke Control Areas but it is an offence if the smoke therefrom is a nuisance to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood.

Much valuable publicity for the clean air campaign was obtained by the Clean Air Exhibition held at the Wolsey Hall during the week ended 14th September, 1963. The Exhibition was formally opened by the Chairman of the Council before an invited audience and excellent exhibits were staged by the National Coal Board, the Eastern Gas Board and the Eastern Electricity Board, Messrs. Shellmex and B.P., Messrs. Allied Ironfounders Ltd., The National Society for Clean Air and the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

A Film Show was given each afternoon and evening when films relating to various aspects of the clean air campaign were shown.

An enquiry stand was manned throughout the exhibition and the staff answered questions and distributed literature.

A wide variety of approved appliances to burn solid smokeless fuels, electricity, gas and oil were on display.

The Council pay grant of 7/10ths of the expenditure incurred on necessary approved adaptations to fireplaces. In cases of hardship, the Council are empowered to pay additional grant up to 100% of the cost., and in a number of approved cases have done so.

Statutory notices under the Act were served in those cases where adaptations were necessary but where estimates of

proposed works were not available in time to enable approval to be given and for the expenditure to be incurred before the Order came into operation.

In one case where the owner/occupier had carried out work of adaptation to fireplaces without prior approval having been obtained, and grant was therefore statute barred, the Council made application to the Minister of Housing and Local Government for approval to the payment of grant and the Minister authorised an ex-gratia payment equivalent to the normal grant.

NATIONAL SURVEY OF AIR POLLUTION

In 1961 the Council set up three Air Pollution Measurement Stations in collaboration with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, to measure smoke and sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere.

The stations are situate at Goff's Oak Playing Field, the Manor House Depot and at Waltham Cross. Daily readings are made and the results submitted to the Warren Spring Laboratory, who issue a monthly summary of the observations made by all local authorities taking part in the survey.

The average daily amounts for each month of the year are shown in the following tables :

Station No.	Micrograms per cubic metre. Smoke			Average daily reading. Sulphur Dioxide		
	1	2	3	1	2	3
January	156	167	NR	265	224	NR
February	162	116	107	238	193	300
March	94	55	42	153	117	97
April	66	44	32	120	101	84
May	39	19	15	91	78	59
June	32	18	14	66	55	48
July	32	15	12	62	47	53
August	30	15	10	64	62	52
September	29	20	16	62	65	58
October	85	39	34	111	104	69
November	NR	73	67	NR	123	125
December	136	74	64	175	127	137

Station No. 1: Waltham Cross.

Station No. 2: Council Depot.

Station No. 3: Goff's Oak.

Note.—NR signifies "no result". A "no result" is returned for a number of reasons, one being where there are fewer than 21 daily readings in the month.

GRIT AND DUST.

The Deposit Gauges set up in October last year in Harold Road, Waltham Cross, and Hedworth Avenue, Waltham Cross, together with the control instrument at the Grammar School, Windmill Lane, were kept in use throughout 1963.

The two instruments at Harold Road were used to monitor the deposit in that area following complaints alleging nuisance from burnt and partly-burnt sawdust.

Evidence was obtained that on occasions serious deposits of burnt and partly-burnt woody material were occurring in the Harold Road vicinity, but the presence of the material in the deposit bowl is not evidence, of course, as to its source.

The factory from which it was alleged that the emission came is in the Waltham Holy Cross Urban District, and in March, a joint meeting was held between members of that Authority and Cheshunt Urban District Council to discuss the problem. In April, a joint meeting of members was held at the factory concerned.

In June, a survey of all industrial boiler installations east of the railway at Waltham Cross was carried out and in that part of the Cheshunt Urban District there are eleven such premises with sixteen furnace installations. The fuels used are: coal 3, electricity 1, oil 10, incinerators burning solid waste 2. The incinerators are used to burn paper, fibrous materials and other rubbish. In no case was wood waste or sawdust burnt.

The amount of deposit of burnt and unburnt woody material as measured by the deposit bowls showed much improvement in the latter part of the year, but at the end of the year the investigation was still being continued in collaboration with the Waltham Holy Cross Urban District Council.

The deposit bowl used to monitor the emission of coal dust from the Theobalds Grove Station Coal Wharf was moved from Hedworth Avenue to a nearby site in Lambton Avenue early in the year. Compared with the control deposit bowl at Cheshunt Grammar School, the deposit at Lambton Avenue was a normal one. The presence of coal dust was recorded in most of the reports but no excessive quantities were found.

The fuel bagging plant was removed from its position in close proximity to the fence abutting on Lambton Avenue to a site further from the houses.

DARK SMOKE (PERMITTED PERIODS) REGULATIONS, 1958.

A series of observations were made during the year on the chimneys of industrial furnace installations east of the railway line at Waltham Cross, but no contravention of the Regulations was seen. The Regulations allow 10 minutes of dark smoke in eight hours provided no single burst of dark smoke lasts longer than 4 minutes. The Regulations also make it an offence to discharge black smoke for more than 2 minutes altogether in any period of 30 minutes.

RADIO ACTIVE FALL-OUT.

At the request of a member, samples of statistical information on radioactive fall-out in air were submitted to the Public Health Committee and copies of published reports on some aspects of the Government's monitoring programme were made available to members who wished to peruse them.

Separate figures relating to fall-out in Cheshunt are not available but there is a wide variety of statistical information available on radioactive fall-out in air, rain, milk, drinking water, other articles of diet, soil, herbage and human bones, contained in reports by the Agricultural Research Council, Medical Research Council and the Atomic Energy Authority.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT.

Complaints were received during the year alleging noise nuisance from a gravel screening plant, a factory loudspeaker system, a portable compressor at a contractors plant depot, a car factory, and a car breaker's yard.

An informal approach was made in each case and the occupiers were anxious to co-operate so far as practicable to prevent annoyance to residents in the neighbourhood. The noisy compressor at the contractors plant depot was an emergency arrangement only and was replaced by new equipment.

Two complaints were received regarding noisy neighbours but in these cases no action was justified.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTIONS.

The number of food premises in the area classified according to type of business is as follows:

Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	1
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	39
Grocery and Provisions	...	...	...	...	...	56
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	18
Fish Friers	...	...	...	...	...	6
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	19
Chemists	...	...	...	...	...	9
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	40
Cafés, Caterers, Canteens	...	...	..	...	...	34
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	21
Bakers	...	...	...	...	...	11
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	5

During the year 341 visits were made to shops and premises where food is prepared or exposed for sale as detailed in the following table:—

Slaughterhouses	...	..	...	...	...	132
Butcher Shops	...	...	...	...	...	24
Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	10
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	11
Cafés and Restaurants	...	...	..	...	...	5
School Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	4
Other Food Shops and Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	101
Visits to Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	25
Milk Premises	...	...	...	...	...	2
Egg Albumen Plant	...	...	...	...	...	21
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	6

FOOD CONDEMNED.

The quantity of tinned and packaged foodstuffs condemned last year from two wholesale warehouses in Cheshunt was considerable and had to be reviewed.

Where in the course of a wholesale business, foodstuffs are rejected because the tins or packages are punctured, damaged or blown, then the food is no longer intended for human consumption and becomes trade refuse. Where the owner of the rejected foodstuffs desires to have them examined by the local authority and a formal certificate of condemnation issued, then the local authority may arrange an examination on payment of such fee as they may fix in accordance with the provisions of Section 98 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

The setting up of arrangements on this basis was discussed with the firms concerned and as a result, the use of local authority certificates for reclaim purposes was dispensed with, and the rejected foodstuffs are now dealt with as trade refuse.

At premises other than slaughterhouses, the following food-stuffs were surrendered as unsound and unfit for human consumption :—

Packets of Frozen Food	...	...	4,300
Meat	...	...	2,396½ lbs.
Liver	...	...	50 lbs.
Tins of various meats	...	...	294
Tins of various soups	...	...	10
Tins of various fish	...	...	13
Tins of various fruits and vegetables			240
Tins of various jams	...	...	6
Tins of milk	...	...	20
Bacon	...	...	205 lbs.
Fish	...	...	21 stone

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

The Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, came into operation on 1st October, 1963. The Regulations require that meat at slaughterhouses must be inspected and when passed as fit for human consumption, must be marked. Local authorities may charge for the inspection.

There is only one slaughterhouse in Cheshunt and 100% inspection has always been maintained.

As provided by the Regulations, the Council decided to make charges for meat inspection at the rate of 2/6d. for cattle, 9d. per calf or pig, and 6d. per sheep, lamb or goat.

The Slaughterhouse Regulations became effective in this district on 1st October, 1961, and the slaughterhouse complies with the Regulations, and is licensed until 30th September, 1964.

One hundred and thirty-two visits were made to the slaughterhouse during the year and details of carcasses and offal inspected and condemned are shown in the following table :—

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed, if known	248	2	25	1,111	495	—
Number inspected ...	248	2	25	1,111	495	—
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :</i>						
Whole carcasses con- demned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned ...	27	—	—	2	17	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cys- ticerci ...	10.9%	—	—	0.18%	3.4%	—
<i>Tuberculosis only :</i>						
Whole carcasses con- demned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned ...	3	—	—	—	5	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	1.2%	—	—	—	1.0%	—
<i>Cysticerci :</i>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned ...	1	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigera- tion ...	1	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

METHOD OF DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD.

Condemned foodstuffs are buried with suitable precautions at the Council's Refuse Disposal Tip.

LICENSING OF SLAUGHTERMEN.

Three slaughtermen's licences to slaughter animals in a slaughterhouse by the captive bolt method were renewed for the period of one year.

The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958, provide for the grant of "qualified" licences to new slaughtermen, thus enabling arrangements to be made for newcomers to the trade to get experience under supervision.

Such a "qualified" licence was renewed to an applicant under 21 years of age for the further period of one year and a "qualified" licence was granted to a new applicant aged 36 years. In both cases the licences are subject to the condition that the holder shall use a captive bolt type of instrument and shall not slaughter any animal except under the supervision of persons holding a licence in force under the Act, which is not subject to a like condition.

REGISTRATION OF FOOD PREMISES.

The number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and the number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, together with the number of inspections is shown in the following table :—

Premises	No.	No. of Inspections
Ice Cream Premises	81	11
Food Preparing Premises ...	24	101
Dairies	4	2

ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT, ETC.) REGULATIONS, 1959.

No contraventions were recorded of the Regulations regarding temperature at which ice cream is to be kept or as to protection from contamination.

There are no premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream.

ICE CREAM SAMPLING.

Examination of ice cream samples is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Luton, by the Methylene Blue Test and samples are graded according to Ministry of Health Provisional Grades. Plate counts on samples and presumptive tests for B. Coli are not carried out.

During the year, 11 samples were submitted for examination and all the samples were placed in Grade 1.

This is the fourth consecutive year that all ice-cream samples taken in Cheshunt have been reported upon as satisfactory.

MILK SAMPLING.

The County Council undertake sampling for the presence of tubercle bacilli and brucella abortus. No report of the presence of either of these organisms was received during the year.

MILK LICENCES.

Licences were granted in 1961 until 1965 as follows :—

Tuberculin Tested—Dealer's Licence	...	...	1
Pasteurised—Dealer's Licence	...	...	1
Sterilised—Dealer's Licence	...	...	9

FOOD SAMPLES EXAMINED BY THE PUBLIC ANALYST.

Eighty-seven informal samples were submitted for analysis as follows :

Sample No.	Article	Sample No.	Article
297	Cream of Tomato Soup	332	Lemon Pic Filling
298	Pure Malt Vinegar	333	Soy Sauce
299	Mint in Vinegar	334	Garlic Salt
300	Steak and Kidney Pudding	335	Fried Rice
301	Tea	336	Broiled Octopus on Skewer
302	Ground Rice	337	Whole Caraway Seed
303	Bread Sauce	338	Cream of Tartar
304	Creamy White American Frosting Mix	340	French Capers in Malt Vinegar
305	Spaghetti alla Romana	341	Dried Mixed Herbs
306	Dressed Crab	342	Ground Cloves
307	Cheese Flaps in Tomato Sauce	343	Coffee and Chicory Mixture
308	Yorkshire Relish in Thick Sauce	344	Gelatine
309	Chicken and Ham Meat Paste	345	Force meat Parsley, Thyme and Lemon
310	Coffee Cup	348	Pineapple Eclairs
311	Pork Sausages	349	Butter Assortment
312	Sparkling Orange	350	Chicken Casserole
313	Chicken Capri	351	Fancy Pink Salmon
314	Veal Sorrento	352	Marzipan
315	Instant Coffee	353	Hamburgers
316	Tuna in Pure Edible Oil	354	Crab Paste with Butter
317	Cream of Chicken Soup	355	Ground Ginger
318	Genuine Italian Grated Parmesan Cheese	356	Danish Cream
319	Pork Chipolatas	357	Irish Stew
320	Steak and Kidney Pie	358	Prawns
321	Tarragon Vinegar	359	Scotch Broth (Dehydrated)
322	Peps	360	Buttered Cheese Spread
323	Digestion Tablets	361	Coconut Toffees
324	Glucose Sulphur Tablets	362	Blackcurrant Chewy Fruits
325	Junior Balsam	369	Lemon Juice
327	Tea	370	Sparkling Lemon Barley
328	Pork Chipolatas	371	Frankfurter Sausages in Brine
329	Strawberry Milk Shake Syrup	372	Strained Chicken Soup
330	Ham and Chicken Roll	373	Junior Dinner, Vegetables, Egg, Noodles and Turkey
331	Ground Almonds	375	Beef Goulash
		376	Beef Casserole
		377	Desiccated Coconut

Sample No.	Article	Sample No.	Article
378	Beef Sausages	387	Garden Peas
379	Pork Chipolata Sausages	388	Garden Peas
380	Slimming Biscuits	390	Romany Soup
381	Fridge Freeze Ice Pops	391	Chicken Stock Tablets
382	Ice Lolly Syrup	392	Instant Drinking Chocolate
383	Tomato Juice	393	Orange Nectar
384	Strawberry Flavour	394	Parsley Flakes
385	Demerara Sugar	395	Baby Rice
386	Garden Peas		

Seventy-nine of these samples were reported upon as genuine.

The remaining samples, Nos. 313, 314, 350, 369, 380, 386, 387, 388 were reported upon by the Analyst as follows:

313—Chicken Capri—"The constituents of the sample included the following substance in proportion as under:

Meat	21 per cent.
------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	--------------

In my opinion the proportion of meat in this sample is low for an article described as 'Chicken Capri'."

314—Veal Sorrento—"The constituents of the sample included the following substance in proportion as under:

Meat	19 per cent.
------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	--------------

In my opinion the proportion of meat in this sample is low for an article described as 'Veal Sorrento'."

350—Chicken Casserole—"The constituents of the sample included the following substance in proportion as under:

Meat	41 per cent.
------	-----	-----	-----	----	-----	--------------

In my opinion the proportion of meat in this sample is low for an article described as 'Chicken Casserole'."

369—Lemon Juice—"The lemon juice was found to consist of a cloudy slightly viscous liquor having a quantity of yeast cells."

380—Slimming Biscuits—"The sample consisted of twelve Slimming Biscuits containing:

Vitamin A	...	...	...	1,250 International Units
Vitamin B ₁	..	...	...	1.9 milligrams
Vitamin C	...	...	...	95 milligrams
Iron	...	...	...	3.2 milligrams

The label attached to the packet in which these biscuits were contained stated that the contents of the packet (twelve sandwich biscuits) contain:

Vitamin A	...	...	...	5,000 Units (U.S.P.)
Vitamin B ₁	...	...	...	2 milligrams
Vitamin C	...	...	...	100 milligrams
Iron	...	...	...	15 milligrams

My analysis shows that the Vitamin A content is only one-quarter of the stated figure and the iron content is less than one-quarter of the stated figure."

386, 387 and 388—Garden Peas—"The first of these samples was submitted following an allegation by a purchaser that on opening another can of the same brand of garden peas a layer of mould growth was found on the surface of the contents.

The sample submitted consisted of an unopened can bearing the embossed mark LUY
12HG

When opened the contents were found to be in an apparently satisfactory condition, there being no evidence of mould growth or any other deterioration.

Bacteriological examination, however, showed that the contents were not completely sterile, and also contained a small number of viable mould spores.

We think it unlikely, however, that visible mould growth would develop in such a can as this if it were completely sealed.

However, in view of the fact that the contents were not sterile we arranged for two further tins to be submitted for further examination.

These two tins carried the same embossed mark as the first tin, and examination showed that they were entirely satisfactory in all respects.

In our opinion if the mould growth alleged to have been found by the original purchaser developed before the can was opened, it is most likely that there was a fault in the sealing of the can.

We have been unable to find any faults in the sealing of the three cans examined."

The manufacturers were informed of the Analyst's reports on the samples of Chicken Casserole and they contended that in the proposed classification as shown in the Food Standards Committee's Report on Canned Meat, this product would classify as a canned meat with vegetables for which a meat content of only 35% is recommended. The Analyst disagreed with this classification and the Council decided to make representations to the Urban District Council's Association urging that products of this nature should contain a reasonably high proportion of meat and that a minimum standard content of meat should be fixed at an early date.

The manufacturer's of the Chicken Capri and Veal Sorrento samples similarly contended that a meat content of 35% would be too high for a product called a "Snack Meal", and they stated that representations were being made to the Food Standards Committee. The Council made representations to the Urban District Council's Association that the Food Standards Committee be urged that products in which meat is included in the main description of title should contain not less than 35% of meat.

The distributors of the Slimming Biscuits stated that arrangements had been made by the proprietors for new manufacturers to commence production of the product to a modified formula which would rectify deficiencies. Enquiries were made at intervals of retailers with a view to the taking of a formal sample, but no stocks of these biscuits could be found.

The sample of lemon juice was taken for purposes of comparison following a complaint. Existing stocks were withdrawn by the retailer.

FOOD COMPLAINTS.

Fifteen complaints relating chiefly to foreign matter in foodstuffs sold in Cheshunt during the year were considered by the Council. Details are shown in the following table:

Foodstuffs	Nature of Complaint	Council Decision	Result where prosecutions were instituted
Currant Bun	*Foreign matter—split pin	Legal Proceedings	Fined £30 Costs £6 6s. Public Analyst's fee £3 5s.
Loaf of Bread	*Foreign matter—piece of wire	Legal Proceedings	Fined £5 Costs £6 6s.
Currant Bun	*Foreign matter—piece of cotton	Warning	—
Sliced Bread	*Foreign matter—parts of insect	Legal Proceedings	Fined £25 Advocates fees £6 6s. Public Analyst's fees £3 15s.
Corned Beef	*Mould growth	No action	—
Fish	*Foreign matter—Nematode worms	Warning	—
Sausages	Foreign matter—dead fly	Warning	—
Loaf of Bread	*Foreign matter — dis-coloured dough	Warning	—
Lemon Juice	*Foreign matter — whitish deposit—yeast cells	Warning	—
Three Loaves of Bread	*Foreign matter — printed paper	Warning	—
Currant Bun	*Foreign matter—string	Legal Proceedings	Fined £30 Costs £3 3s.
Corn Flakes	*Foreign matter — paraffin wax	Legal Proceedings	Fined £25 Costs £5 5s.
Chocolate Wafer	*Foreign matter—maggot	Warning	—
Canned Peas	*Mouldy	Warning	—
Canned Meat	Foreign matter — wood	Outstanding at end of Dec., 1963	—

The items marked with an asterisk were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination and report.

In all cases representatives of the firms concerned were invited to inspect the goods about which complaint had been made and in those cases where warnings were issued, assurances were given that every effort would be made to prevent a recurrence.

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN.

In January, the Council considered the institution of a Clean Food Campaign and authorised the provision of a poster display stand in the Public Library, on which a display of posters on food hygiene is regularly exhibited. Posters on food hygiene are also regularly displayed on notice boards in various parts of the district and on Council vehicles.

In May, a letter was addressed to all food businesses in the Urban District, appealing for the co-operation and support of all engaged in food handling in a campaign to eliminate risks of contamination at all stages of food preparation and sale. Special attention was drawn to the offence of using tobacco where there is "open" food and specially prepared notices requesting "No Smoking" were enclosed with the letter.

Every opportunity was taken by the Public Health Inspectors during routine inspections of food premises to discuss food hygiene with the staffs concerned and this is probably one of the most effective methods of education in food hygiene since by this means it is possible to direct propaganda to those instances where it is most needed and it can be done on the spot when any unhygienic practices are observed.

The response to the campaign generally was good and a number of requests for additional posters particularly regarding "dogs in foodshops" were received.

Posters and leaflets on food hygiene were displayed at the Clean Air and Better Homes Exhibition which was staged at the Wolsey Hall during the week ended 14th September, 1963.

EGG ALBUMEN—HEAT TREATMENT.

The heat treatment plant at Walcros Poultry Farm, which was transferred from Southwark in 1958, was used on one occasion during the year to process imported egg albumen powder found on sampling at the Port to be contaminated with salmonellae. After heat treatment, the consignment was sampled again and all samples were found to be positive. The sample cartons were treated experimentally at 12°F. in an attempt to reintroduce moisture into the content of the cartons, and they were again heat treated. Resampling showed all the samples to be still positive. The consignment was re-exported.

The heat treatment process was designed for crystalline egg albumen for which it was satisfactory, but it appears that the process cannot be consistently and successfully used for the treatment of powdered albumen. Moisture content and the form of the commodity appear to have a bearing on the effectiveness of the sterilisation.

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